

THE STORY OF THE MARBLEHEAD
LIGHTHOUSE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Marblehead Lighthouse in Marblehead, Ohio. On Sunday, November 20, 2021, I joined with residents and congregants of First United Church of Christ-Congregational in Marblehead to kick off the celebration through 2022. I am honored to include in the RECORD the history as stated during the celebration. The history was written by Lorrie Halblaub.

Welcome. Today we will rededicate the Marblehead Lighthouse which was built in 1821 and commissioned in 1822. It was originally called the Sandusky Bay Light Station but the name changed to Marblehead in 1870. Starting today, this peninsula will be honoring the light with a year-long celebration featuring many events. There is something about a lighthouse that makes us compare it to God. Its leading light, its steadfastness, its help to those who are in trouble, so a church is a fitting place to begin this journey.

THE STORY OF THE MARBLEHEAD LIGHTHOUSE IN
WORDS AND MUSIC

After the War of 1812, the United States turned its attention to shipping on the Great Lakes and lighthouses were necessary to aid in navigation. In 1819 Congress budgeted \$5,000 for a light between the Grand River in Ohio and the Detroit River in Michigan. Another \$5000 was budgeted in 1820.

Because Sandusky Bay was the safest harbor in that stretch of Lake Erie, it was decided that a light would be erected at the entrance. So, the United States purchased 3 acres of land for \$277.45 on what was known then as Rocky Point, a small peninsula on the east end of the larger Marblehead peninsula.

Instructions on the size and shape of the lighthouse were given to the builder, William Kelly, from Sandusky. His workers quarried the native limestone and built the 50-foot tower that was to become the light. They started on September 14 and finished on November 10, 1821 at a cost of \$7,282. Two of Kelly's grandsons, John Jr. and Joab were founders of this church.

Over the rest of the winter and spring of 1822, the top of the light tower was fitted with the light source; 13 Argand whale oil lamps with reflectors and a set of windows, called a lantern, that the light shone through.

The lighthouse was the first permanent structure built on the peninsula. The second structure was a stone keeper's house next to the light. Then William Kelly also built a third stone dwelling for the man who would become the first keeper of the light, Benajah Wolcott, the first permanent settler of Danbury Township. By June 22, 1822, the light was officially lit and Wolcott began 10 years of service at \$350 per year.

What was it like to be a lightkeeper back then? In a word "difficult". First, you had to stay up all night long to keep the light going. You had to haul heavy containers of oil up a series of wooden ladders to fuel the flame. The wicks needed trimming, the lamps and window glass needed polishing, the tower needed maintenance and painting, the grounds and the keeper's house had to be cleaned and kept in repair.

Remember, back then, the Marblehead Peninsula was a prairie. Settlers lived in log cabins with no towns, roads, stores, schools, churches or local government. Travel on land was by horse or on foot so you couldn't run to a store if you needed something. Shopping required a rowboat trip across Sandusky Bay to the nearest town where you turned in your monthly lighthouse reports and picked up your pay.

All the early keepers grew their own food and kept livestock. All keepers kept a log where they wrote down the weather and what ships passed.

For the first 55 years of the light, the keepers were also required to aid any ship in distress. If they couldn't mount a rescue of volunteers, they had to do the rescuing themselves.

There were 15 lightkeepers over the years, including two women. After Benajah Wolcott died of Cholera, his wife, Rachel, became the first female lightkeeper on the Great Lakes.

Then, in 1875, something happened that changed the keeper's duty of mounting rescues. In May of that year, a gale swept over the lake. The schooner *Consuelo* began to sink about 3 miles from the Lighthouse. Lucien Clemons, whose father started the first quarry business on the peninsula, saw their plight and along with his brothers Hubbard and Ai mounted a rescue.

They rowed a 12-foot boat for nearly an hour in a raging storm, risking their own lives. They saved two of the crew, who were clinging to the ship. The captain, three seamen and a female cook were lost.

For their heroic effort, the three were given the first Congressional gold lifesaving medals ever awarded.

Then, because of the number of shipwrecks in the area, the government built a lifesaving station here and it took over the rescues from the lightkeepers.

The Point Marblehead Lifesaving Station opened June 24, 1876 with Lucien Clemons as the first keeper. He served for 21 years.

His brothers, Hubbard and Ai were members of this church, which was built in 1900. The brothers served on the building committee. Because the lifesaving station was small, they made a deal with the church that people who were rescued could shelter here if needed. The sign of that covenant is on the top of our church steeple. Instead of a cross, we have a symbolic Astrolabe, a device that helped early sailors navigate.

The Lifesaving station became part of the Coast Guard and the station was rebuilt and enlarged twice. Today the Marblehead Coast Guard station is the one of the busiest on the Great Lakes.

A replica of the first lifesaving station is on display on the grounds of our lighthouse.

Because the Coast Guard was part of the Navy during World War II, they have their own verse in the next song, also known as the Navy Hymn. We will now sing Eternal Father Strong to Save with the Coast Guard verse.

As the years went by, the lighthouse changed, always for the better, and always to make the light beam farther and brighter.

Around the turn of the 20th century, two additions to height, a bigger lantern and a bigger lens were added. The light fuel went from oil to kerosene to electricity and from a lantern with simple reflectors to a magnificent Fresnel lens, to several big LED bulbs.

In 1903 the Light gained a clockwork mechanism that only needed to be wound every few hours. Today it is automated. The color of the light has been white, red and now is green so as to distinguish it from other air beacons.

Two keepers oversaw most of these changes. Joanna McGee, our second female

keeper, and Charles Hunter, who were both members of this church. The McGee's came to the lighthouse as a newly-weds when George was hired as the 12th keeper. They gave birth to 10 children while living there. Joanna became the keeper after her husband George passed away. Together, George and Johanna McGee served 30 years.

By 1881, the keeper's original stone house was in such poor condition that George built them a shed to live in. When the light house inspector saw that, it wasn't long before the old keepers house was torn down and a new two-story wooden home was built that serves as the lighthouse museum today.

Charles Hunter came as a single man but married at age 55. He served from 1903-1933, and was quite a character. He was a storyteller, taught a woodworking class at the local school. He built a boat that was too heavy to float and a house made of wood that had washed up on shore.

Before 1920, he owned a car, a Hupmobile, but didn't drive it. His wife drove while he sat in the back smoking his pipe! He also created pictures out of crewel embroidery like the one on display. And without knowing how to play the piano, he wrote a song about the lighthouse called The Lighthouse by the Bay that will be sung by soloist Bill Bird.

200 years after the lighthouse was built it is still beaming light every night. It has the honor of being the oldest continuously operating Lighthouse on the Great Lakes. Four other Great Lakes lighthouses were built prior to 1821, but all of them have been decommissioned.

Over the years, many old lighthouses have been torn down or rebuilt a few times, but the original Marblehead Light still stands because of several factors; it was built on solid bedrock, built of the finest limestone, a stone that is nearly waterproof, built by an excellent mason who mixed the right mortar consistency and let the building cure properly, and because it has been lovingly maintained over the years. It has withstood many Nor'Easter storms with waves that splash the windows 65 feet up. It has withstood the wrath of Lake Erie, known as the toughest, meanest and most unpredictable of the Great Lakes.

As playwright George Bernard Shaw wrote: 'I can think of no other edifice constructed by man as altruistic as a lighthouse. They were built to serve. They weren't built for any other purpose.' We will now sing the hymn Brightly Beams our Father's Mercy.

HONORING THE TIMELESS
ZOROASTRIAN LEGACY

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to issue this recognition of "Timeless Zoroastrian Legacy" to all Zoroastrians for their extraordinary contributions to history and civilization, in pioneering the first universal human rights, world democracy, abolishment of slavery, and freedom of religion. The Zoroastrian legacy has greatly influenced the American founding fathers, the American Constitution, and the design of the Statue of Liberty.

Please join me in recognizing the remarkable contributions of the Zoroastrian community in the United States and throughout the world.

HONORING THE WORK AND
RETIREMENT OF KEN MALLOY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of CBS47 anchor and Central Valley news icon, Ken Malloy. Ken has served as a journalist, reporter, and anchor for nearly 39 years, and he will be dearly missed by the Central Valley.

Ken was born and raised in Los Angeles. There, he attended and graduated from the prestigious University of Southern California. Ken began his career as an anchor and reporter at KESQ in Palm Springs, California, where he was recognized for his breaking news coverage.

Thereafter, he moved to New Hampshire, where he reported at WMUR and hosted an award-winning weekly political talk show that took home two Golden Mike Awards. Ken continued his pursuit of groundbreaking news coverage when he ventured to Providence, Rhode Island. He served as a co-anchor and reporter at WJAR, the number one-rated station in the city.

While there, Ken served on the Board of Directors for the state's adoption exchange program and produced weekly "Tuesday's Child" segments and half-hour specials on child adoption. These efforts served as a true testament to his purposeful reporting.

Ken came to Fresno, California, to join CBS47 after a stint at KTVT, the CBS Owned and Operated station in Dallas, Texas, where he anchored and reported for almost 12 years. In Fresno, Ken started as the weekend co-anchor, before launching the station's first morning show and serving as the primary anchor.

Ken has covered some of the most prolific moments in American history. This includes his coverage of the Oklahoma City Bombing, Timothy McVeigh's execution, and the capture of the "Texas Seven." He took on the courageous responsibility of covering the 9–11 attacks, along with the 2000 presidential race. Ken's diligence and work ethic was put on full display while he stayed on the road for six weeks during the Election Cycle.

Today, we pride Ken for his work as an award-winning journalist, anchor, and community leader. Since 1984, he has anchored more than 30,000 newscasts, written more than 10,000 stories, and received countless awards and recognitions. His presence, charisma, and consistency will always be missed as a part of his greater legacy here in the Central Valley. I join his wife Michelle, their three wonderful children, and friends in congratulating Ken for all his achievements.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the work and retirement of Ken Malloy. His service and contributions to the Central Valley will be missed and we wish him all the best for the future.

HONORING KIM FORREST

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kim Forrest to

commemorate her 45 years of service with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Raised in Seaside on the Monterey Peninsula of California, Kim Forrest's youth was marked by adventure, spending her days exploring the vast biodiversity of the Pacific coast. Each summer, Kim and her parents would camp in the High Sierra where her appreciation of wildlife grew. Shortly after her college graduation from Utah State University, Kim's steadfast admiration of wildlife led her to join the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an entry level employee at Bear River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Later, Kim became acting Manager of Fish Springs NWR.

After a brief stint at the Charles M. Russell NWR in Montana, Kim returned to her home state of California where she became the primary manager of the Merced NWR in the San Joaquin Valley. Subsequently, she became Deputy Project Leader at the Sacramento NWR, supervising a crew of equipment operators and biologists. Furthermore, Kim became project leader at the San Luis NWR complex, a wildlife refuge with an area of 40,000 acres, establishing herself as a well-respected conservationist.

Kim's contributions to California wildlife are plentiful, including the development and acquisition of riparian zones, the elimination of invasive plant species, and the recovery of the endangered Riparian Brush Rabbit. Kim's conservation efforts are continued through her work to connect wildlife corridors and protect the wildlife that remains in California's Central Valley. November 11th marks Kim's 45th anniversary of working for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Kim Forrest has made an everlasting impact on Californian wildlife conservation efforts through years of dedicated service. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

CONGRATULATING DETECTIVE
TIMOTHY METZGER FOR HIS RE-
TIREMENT FROM THE ROCK IS-
LAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Timothy Metzger, who is retiring from the Rock Island Police Department after 28 years of service. His last day was Friday, November 12.

Detective Timothy Metzger joined the Rock Island Police Department in December 1992. A graduate of Blackhawk College and Western Illinois University, Detective Metzger reported to duty each day with impeccable work ethic and compassion for the neighbors he strived to protect. After nearly 20 years, his peers and principals rewarded him for his commitment to the City of Rock Island by promoting him to Detective of the Police Department. For almost 10 years, Detective Metzger has handled every facet of investigations conducted by the Police Department. He specialized in computer, cellphone, and video forensics and helped with the Illinois Attorney General Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force at a local level. When he was not putting himself in harm's way, he enjoyed giving back to the

area he served, helping coach youth softball and baseball teams in Rock Island.

It is because of committed and honorable leaders such as Detective Metzger that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to, again, formally congratulate Detective Timothy Metzger on his retirement and thank him for his 28 years of service to our community.

SUPPORTING H.R. 951, THE
MATERNAL VACCINATION ACT

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 951, the Maternal Vaccination Act. The pandemic has laid bare the historical inequities that exist in our health care system for Black Americans, especially for Black parents. My constituency is painfully aware of the pervasive, systemic and institutional influences that have contributed to these disparities.

And let's be clear, these disparities have only been exacerbated by the pandemic, which is why me and my colleagues have been so adamant in the inclusion of policies to end our nation's maternal mortality crisis and eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes.

As we are almost two years into a global pandemic that has disproportionately harmed communities of color, the risks facing Black women and other birthing people of color are at a crisis point. Any legislative proposal that will successfully and meaningfully address the pandemic's impact on people of color must directly address the effects of coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) on pregnant people and new moms.

As many of us know, the United States has the highest maternal mortality rate of any high-income country and the only rate that is rising. The pregnancy-related mortality rate for Black women in the U.S. is three to four times higher than the rate for white women, and other women and birthing people of color also face elevated rates of mortality and morbidity.

The risks for pregnant people have only grown during COVID-19: according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "pregnant and recently pregnant women are at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 compared to nonpregnant women." The CDC also found that pregnant people with COVID-19 are at an increased risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes. In addition to clinical risks, the pandemic has affected social determinants of health that contribute to maternal health disparities, like increased food insecurity, which disproportionately impacts Black and Hispanic families.

Without bold and immediate action to address the heightened clinical and non-clinical threats to pregnant people and their growing families, our national recovery from COVID-19 will only exacerbate the inequities that existed before the pandemic and worsened over the past year.

Recognizing the urgent need to address these alarming trends, President Biden's American Families Plan includes a much-